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" Oh blush as ye wander, that it e'er should be taunted,
That strangers have felt, what my own could not feel ;
That, when Britons stood forth in my trial undaunted,
My children slunk back, unconcerned in my weal !"

" Oh ! if yet in your bosom one last spark ye treasure
Of love for the land of your sires—of your birth—
Return ! and indulge in the soul-thrilling pleasure,
Of hailing that land 'mong the brightest on earth !"

Then joy to thee, Erin ! thy better day breaketh ;
The long polar night of thy wo speeds away,
And, as o'er thy chill breast the warm sunlight awaketh,
Each bud of refinement evolves in the ray.

Yet remember—the blossom is barren and fleeting,
As long as the canker of strife, unsubdued,
With its poisonous tooth at the core remains eating—
If e'er thou art *glorious*, thou first must be *good*.

D.

THE COUNTRY TOWN.

NO. I.—THE SQUIRE.

THE TOWN of M——, not far from the mouth of a considerable river, in the south of Ireland, was, from its romantic situation, and the salubrity of the air, much resorted to by the inhabitants of the neighbouring towns ; who greedily exchanged the smoky atmosphere, and burning pavement of their streets, for the green glade and fresh sea breeze, that fanned their cheeks, as they loltered on the beach. Indeed, those only who have spent the greater part of their lives in the murky region of cities, can sufficiently estimate the pleasureable sensations, which a ramble in the fields, or a seat in the woods can impart. Though M—— was always popular as a watering place, yet it never presented that thronged appearance, that bustle of idleness (if the expression is allowable) which in general characterises places of that description ; as from the scantiness of accommodation, the number of its visitors was necessarily limited. It differed also in another respect from those temporary depots of fashion and bile. When the approach of winter drove the swallow tribe of strangers who had fluttered in the sunshine, to take refuge in their respective civic abodes, it was not that desert, that seat of desolation and silence, which Tenby, Weymouth, or any other favored spot is on the departure of those visitors on whom their very existence depends. No, it had a little staff of its own ; a knot of genuine good fellows, who careered it here cheerily the year round ; alike indifferent to change of fashion or season, save as the latter diminished or altered their supply of game or fish. Their society was mostly composed of bachelors ; or, what is nearly tantamount, Benedicts, who regarded the despotism of petticoat govern-

ment, as totally incompatible with the liberality of the present enlightened age. Separated during the winter from frequent intercourse with the neighbouring towns, by deep and hilly roads, they had been imperceptibly drawn closer together, and now lived in the uninterrupted enjoyment of good fellowship and jollity. Having the honour to enjoy a high degree of consideration in this worshipful fraternity, I see no reason why their transactions and biography should not be laid before the world, with proper solemnity; having still stronger claims to notice, than those of sundry societies and individuals more distinguished, because more notorious.

And first then (as first in rank and consideration) I shall devote this paper to the history of our Captain, or as we emphatically call him "the Squire;" a title which he enjoys of right, as lord paramount of the soil, and by courtesy, from being the oldest and most influential member of our club.—Never did man, in his whole bearing and deportment, exhibit more real indications of genuine kindness and good nature, than the "Squire." His figure, which was cast in the largest mould, was still sinewy and clean built, nor at all bowed by years, of which he numbers near fourscore. This strength of constitution and person, was mainly attributable to the habits of activity and exertion, to which he had always inured himself. An enthusiastic lover of field sports, he still pursued the chase with an ardour and recklessness of danger, which would have immortalized a school-boy; while the proximity of his residence to the sea, afforded him an opportunity in summer, of enjoying those aquatic pursuits of which he was immoderately fond. Standing at the rudder of his yacht, his tall and robust figure set off by the sea dress which he wore, it was impossible not to admire so goodly a specimen of nature's handy work, unshaken by all the rough usage it had endured. Indeed, nothing but this ardour for active and manly exercises, could have saved his constitution or even his life; for he ever had been a boon companion, and drank many a sturdy tippler under the table. Little mercy was shown the flincher who had the temerity to appear at his table: yet still, every thing went on in such a genuine strain of good humour and anxious hospitality, that it was impossible not to feel happy in his society; and in truth, those who generally frequented his table, needed but little incentive to enjoy to the full the choice wines, and good cheer, which always marked his board. The fiery red hue of his nose and the adjacent parts of his face, bore ample testimony to the length and continuance of his potations. He it was, who was said in the course of his life to have drank claret, sufficient, if collected in one aggregate, to float a frigate. He it was, whose charter toasts twen-

ty in number, were first to be discussed in bumpers, before the serious business of the evening commenced. He it was, who, surviving his companions, that lay prostrate around him; overcome by their abundant libations, called for his boots and rode to join the hounds at the cover side. In short, to the influence of wine he was impregnable, save as it served to quicken the flow of good humoured conviviality. His liberality was not confined to his equals, the poor of the surrounding country were all objects of his bounty. Of a winter morning, he might be seen standing on the high old-fashioned steps of his house, surrounded by a crowd of half-clad hungry shivering wretches, his white hair floating in the wind, with an old fashioned morning gown wrapt round his tall athletic form; whilst his butler distributed, under his immediate inspection, food, and raiment, and money, to each of them, according to their necessities; who, as they received their pittance, always had to endure a sound rating, for their obstinate idleness, to which the bounty of their benefactor was such a powerful inducement. His domestic concerns, which from his mode of life, might naturally be supposed to be somewhat in disorder, were, on the contrary, the best arranged and most methodical in the country, and appeared to move with as much regularity and precision, under the inspection of the (*ci-devant*) corporal Dixon, as the old clock on the kitchen stairs. Dixon (of whom more hereafter) both loved and feared his master; indeed, the latter possessed, in an extraordinary degree, the secret of making himself adored, and at the same time implicitly deferred to, by all who approached him. Such was, such is our Squire! and such may he long continue, for when he goes, well may we say, "we ne'er shall look upon his like again!"

SIMON SWINGER.

SKETCHES

OF

THE HISTORY AND EFFECTS OF COMMERCE.

No. I.

To trace the progress of the Arts which have contributed to the advancement of society, and to mark the important results to which they have given origin, is a subject of speculation which must at all times be interesting. The slow and gradual developement of the human intellect, affords a fine field for research; and the trifling and seemingly *accidental* circumstances, which have led to its highest displays, furnish mate-